

# Celebrity NEWS



## VIENNA ACADEMY CHORUS

PROF. FERDINAND GROSSMANN, Founder-Director

GUNTHER THEURING, Conductor

Tuesday, November First

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INCORPORATED 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 1870.

## CELEBRITY NEWS

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# THE VIENNA ACADEMY CHORUS

PROF. FERDINAND GROSSMANN, Founder-Director

GUNTHER THEURING, Conductor

**R**OOTED in the traditions of old Austria, yet youthful in membership and in pioneering plans is the Vienna Academy Chorus. Its members are all graduates of the century-old Vienna Academy of Music which had its great days under the Hapsburg Empire but which still sustains the same high musical standards.

Since its inception ten years ago, the group has been trained by Dr. Ferdinand Grossmann, known as the finest choral conductor in Austria. Thus it is not without reason that after their concerts at the Edinburgh Festival in 1952, the leading newspaper there said of

them: "They are a magnificent vocal ensemble, which might almost be called an instrument, for the singing does suggest the qualities of their own Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra."

The Chorus comprises twelve young women and twelve young men who are all vocally and instrumentally trained graduates of the Vienna Academy of Music. The group started modestly enough, organized by Professor Grossmann in 1945, to present the choral singing of most talented graduates of the Vienna Academy of Music. Vienna immediately took the Chorus to heart. After several sold-out

(Continued on Page 18)

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Wednesday, Nov. 30  
and  
Thursday, Dec. 1  
8.30 p.m.

## **"H.M.S. PINAFORE"**

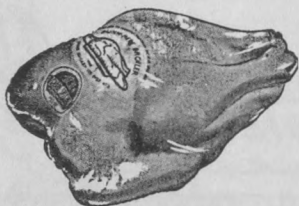
Friday, December 2nd — 8:30 p.m.

## **"THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE"**

Saturday, December 3rd — 8:30 p.m.

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Sally Knapp, leading soprano of the American Savoyards playing Yum-Yum in Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera "The Mikado."

## COMING CELEBRITIES

FOUR NIGHTS OF

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN

—Since Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan began satirizing the human race with music and puns in 1875, their works have been performed some 72,000 times in England and North America. We are happy to be able to bring to Winnipeg the excellent American Savoyards Company which will present the following beloved operas at the Playhouse Theatre, November 30 to December 3.

"THE MIKADO" ..... Wed., Nov. 30th  
Thurs., Dec. 1st

"H. M. S. PINAFORE" ..... Fri., Dec. 2nd

"PIRATES OF PENZANCE" .. Sat., Dec. 3rd

The American Savoyards are the only native company solely dedicated to the works of the composers, with a repertoire comprising the ten major operas and two curtain raisers. A product of extensive research, the actors use the original "business," as devised by W. S. Gilbert, and wear authentic costumes. The company is an out growth of the Masque and Lyre Light Opera Company organized in 1939 by director-producer Dorothy Raedler. In 1948 Miss Raedler formed the American Savoyards. After receiving excellent notices from New York's first-string drama critics, the group played repertory for three and a half years in New York's Jan Hus House. Last season the company did a successful tour of the leading cities. The productions, stylized for humor and charm, have been staged by Dorothy Raedler who has devoted herself exclusively to Gilbert and Sullivan for the past fifteen years.

Sally Knapp, Rue Knapp, Ronald Bush, and Mary Ellen Thompson head the company of twenty. The music is under the direction of Lucille Burnham.

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# JOB

## COLORFUL "SPAIN" NEXT TRAVELOGUE ON WORLD ADVENTURE TOURS

Spain's flashing personality is revealed in this beautiful color film of one of the world's most appealing and vital countries, when Clifford J. Kamen presents his film-tale at the Playhouse Theatre on Saturday, November 26th at 8 p.m. A second performance is scheduled for 9.50 p.m.

Clifford Kamen's unique combination of background, travel experience, photographic and art training, and speaking ability, have made him outstanding among illustrated lecturers.

### Scenes of Romantic Spain

Massive ruins of Rome contrasted with the delicate Moorish grace of the beautiful Alhambra — Flamenco dancers forming a background for Seville and La Rabida from where Columbus sailed to find a new world — dignified Madrid — rugged Galicia — spirited Fiesta of Pamplona . . . all these unforgettable scenes, plus many more, are contained in Mr. Kamen's all-color traveltale film "Spain."

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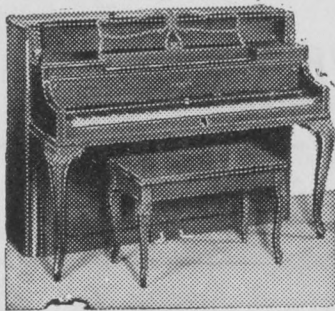


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COMING EVENTS

Tickets for all future Celebrity Concerts and World Adventure Tours  
events now on sale at **Celebrity Box-Office.**

Robert Shaw Choral	Auditorium	Sat. Nov. 12
Clifford Kamen, with "Spain"	Playhouse	Sat., Nov. 26
American Savoyards, presenting Gilbert and Sullivan's		
"The Mikado"	Playhouse	Wed. Nov. 30
"H.M.S. Pinafore"	Playhouse	Thu. Dec. 2
"Pirates of Penzance"	Playhouse	Fri. Dec. 2
Robert Friars, with "Holiday in France"	Playhouse	Sat. Dec. 3
Byron Janis, Pianist	Playhouse	Wed. Dec. 14
Robert McFerrin, Baritone	Auditorium	Mon. Jan. 9
Giesecking, Pianist	Auditorium	Mon. Jan. 30
Herbert Knapp, with "Siam"	Auditorium	Thu. Feb. 16
Virtuosi di Roma	Playhouse	Fri. Feb. 17
Heifetz, Violinist	Auditorium	Thu. Mar. 1
Kenneth Richter, with "Germany"	Auditorium	Wed. Mar. 7
Stan Midgley, with "Utah"	Playhouse	Mon. Mar. 12
	Playhouse	Wed. April 4

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### ROBERT SHAW CHORALE COMING NOVEMBER 12th

In the decade just past, the Robert Shaw Chorale has enriched the music scene as no other group, with its repeated appearances with all the principal symphonies, with its extraordinary broadcasts with Arturo Toscanini and the NBC Symphony, its annual concert tours, and its long list of recordings for RCA Victor.

Dynamic leader of the organization and one of the foremost music leaders in the western world, Robert Shaw has shepherded the art of choral music to its present continuously expanding public favor. Most recently he has become the permanent conductor of the San Diego Symphony and its notable Summer Festival. With the characteristic vitality of his musical vision, Mr. Shaw this year has significantly expanded the personnel of his organization to bring to audiences throughout the North American continent two of the finest and most moving works in the choral-orchestral literature — hitherto heard but rarely even in the metropolitan centres of the United States and Europe. These are Bach's **MAGNIFICAT** in D Major and **HONEGGER'S "KING DAVID."**

"I do not know his equal in the choral field today."

—VIRGIL THOMSON. N.Y. Herald Tribune.

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## The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra

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PROGRAMME

## *The Vienna Academy Chorus*

PROF. FERDINAND GROSSMANN, Founder-Director

GUNTHER THEURING, Conductor

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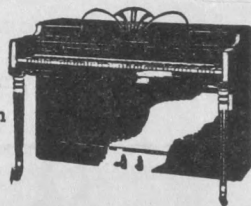
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(PROGRAMME CONTINUED)

**EXSULTATE** ..... Alessandro Scarlatti

"Exsultate" is a beautifully expressed song of jubilation in honor of the Lord, composed by the leading master of the Neapolitan school, Alessandro Scarlatti (1659-1725).

**CRUCIFIXUS** ..... Antonio Lotti

The credo of the Mass, dramatically written for eight voices. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

**LAUDATE DOMINUM (for soprano, chorus and piano)** Mozart

Solo: Linda Zimmermann

All of Mozart's deep feeling and religious devotion can be heard in this wonderful composition, which the twenty-four year old master wrote in Salzburg.

**AVE VERUM (with string quartet)** ..... Mozart

This motet, accompanied by string quartet, was composed very shortly before Mozart's death and just prior to the fragments of the Requiem. It has the familiar Latin hymn-text, "Hail true body, born of the Virgin Mary."



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(TIME CONTINUED)

### LOBET DEN HERRN,

From the motet "Singet dem Herrn" ..... J. S. Bach

Praise the Lord in all His works, praise Him in all His glory. Every creature praise the Lord. Alleluia.

### AUSTRIAN CHRISTMAS FOLK SONGS: (arr. Grossmann)

In the Austrian alpine districts these popular songs play an important part in the Christmas festivities. Many such songs, the composers of which are usually unknown, were composed for Christmas pageants.

### ES WIRD SCHO GLEI DUMPA

(It is Growing Dark ..... from Salzburg

It will soon be dark. I come to You, my Saviour, to stand guard, to sing You a song, little Babe. I hear You cry. Now forget Your grief and sorrows—the angels are gracing Your resting place. Close Your eyes in peace and give me Your blessings. Then my sleep will be without sorrows too.



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(PROGRAMME CONTINUED)

### ES HAT SICH HALT EROFFNET

(The Gates of Heaven Opened)..... from Tyrol

Out of the heavenly gates the little angels rush, somersaulting with joy. God the Father sent us a messenger saying to journey to the Holy Child. Straight to Bethlehem we went bringing fatted lamb, piglet, hen and rooster.

### STILLE NACHT (Silent Night)—from Hallein ..... Franz Gruber

Franz Gruber, a schoolmaster of Wagrein, composing this song for his pastor for the Christmas Mass and certainly had no idea that it would become a favorite the whole world over.

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#### WATCH FOR:

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Plus excerpts from famous classical ballets, with all new costumes, sets, music and choreography.

Tickets will be available November 1st, at the Celebrity Concert Box-Office, 2nd floor, Hudson's Bay Company, Winnipeg.

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(PROGRAMME CONTINUED)

II

## BAUERNTANZE (Austrian Peasant Dances)

For instruments ..... arr. Weininger

Austria is rich in the lore of vocal and dancing songs. Included are Landler (slow country waltz), Schuhplattler (Bavarian clog dance), Siebenschritt (literally seven steps), Dreher (slow waltz danced in circles), Kreuzpolka (cross polka), etc. The classical masters of Vienna have often used the motifs of these folk dances in their works, as for instance Haydn in his oratorio "The Seasons."

## AUSTRIAN FOLK SONGS AND YODELING SONGS

..... arr. Grossmann

Announced by Lida Winiewicz

Gladness, sorrow, love and longing are expressed by the Austrian people in their many folk songs, of which several examples will be given. Typical of the Alps is the yodeling song as it escapes from the heart of the simple Alpine man while he works or tends his cattle or, overwhelmed by the beauty of nature, expresses himself in reverent mood.

— INTERMISSION —

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(PROGRAMME CONTINUED)

### III

#### CLASSICAL VIENNA:

All composers of merit were drawn to Vienna, the city of music, and there was developed the Viennese classical school, recognized everywhere as the acme of tonal, artistic perfection.

#### LOVE SONG-WALTZES (selection) ..... Brahms

Inspired by Vienna's love of dancing, Brahms composed two sets of dances for four voices and four-handed piano accompaniment. The Chorus sings the finest waltzes from the first set, in which is sensed the true romanticism of the Vienna forest.

#### SERENADE (for contralto and women's voices) ..... Schubert

Solo: Rosa Bahl

Grillparzer wrote the poem of this enchanting Serenade for his friends, the Frohlich sisters, and Schubert set it to music. It was first presented in their home with the eldest sister singing the solo and Schubert accompanying her at the piano.

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(PROGRAMME CONTINUED)

## SUITE FROM

“DIE FLEDERMAUS” ..... Johann Strauss-Grossmann  
Solo: Chlothilde Rothbart

The finest melodies of this world famous opera have been assembled in this suite for chorus.

## WALTZ OF SPRING (for coloratura soprano

chorus and piano ..... John Strauss-Grossmann  
Solo: Hertha Schmidt-Walpurg

In his “Waltz of Spring” Johann Strauss depicts the Vienna Forest with its perfume and the magic of the flowers and bird songs.

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**PIZZICATO POLKA** ..... Johann Strauss-Grossmann

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### THE ROBERT SHAW CHORALE AND CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Auditorium — Saturday, November 12th

Programme

#### MAGNIFICAT ..... Johann Sebastian Bach

Surely there is no more joyous music in the world than that of Bach's "Magnificat." The wonder and praise in Mary's heart, when informed by the angel that she is to bear the Messiah, are reflected in music of unsurpassable warmth and beauty. First performed at Leipsig in 1723, shortly after Bach's arrival there to begin his duties as Cantor of St. Thomass' Church, it has come to be known and loved as one of the most personal and immediately communicative of his major works.

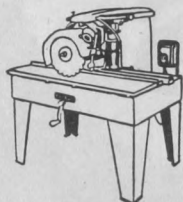
#### KING DAVID ..... Arthur Honegger

Symphonic Drama, after a play by Rene Morax

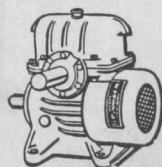
The phenomenal success of "King David" at its first performance affirmed that Arthur Honegger had indeed succeeded in his intention to "create an art that addresses itself directly to everyone." With his unerring instinct for the dramatic, and his spontaneous, colorful musical language, "King David" speaks with an overwhelming power and sincerity.

The events of David's life are briefly and pungently portrayed in scenes that move with an almost cinematic rapidity. A narrator introduces and binds them together, while the psalms serve as moments of reflection, the unforgettable soliloquies of a man engulfed in royal battles. The drama moves with the irresistible force of a wave—rising from the humble shepherd boy to the frenzy of the "Dance Before the Ark," and subsiding again through the Psalms of Penitence to David's death.

Although Honegger later rescored the work for full symphony orchestra, the work is here performed in the original theatre version which was used at its premiere in Switzerland in June, 1921. To the scoring of woodwinds, brass and percussion instruments of this version have been incorporated some string parts in accordance with Mr. Honegger's later expanded score.



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### THE VIENNA ACADEMY CHORUS — (Continued)

Vienna seasons, invitations came to tour all over western Europe and Scandinavia. In 1951, the Chorus gave three concerts at the Edinburgh Festival; in 1952 it opened the Salzburg Festival. The Chorus has been invited to return each successive year to these distinguished musical events, and its annual concerts there are greeted with cheers and volleys of applause. In 1953 it made its first tour of South America, then returned for a second Italian tour. This season the Vienna Academy Chorus is making its fourth consecutive North American tour.

#### About Mr. Gunther Theuring

The young man whom Professor Grossman designated his successor and conductor of this season's North American tour of the Vienna Academy Chorus is but 24 years old. However, from his earliest

days music has played the most important role in his life. He received his first musical training as first soprano soloist with the Vienna Singing Boys. At the age of 16 he founded a youth choir, which won first prize at the All-Austrian Choral Competition in Vienna. Thus encouraged, he entered the Vienna Academy of Music. Soon young Theuring, attracting attention, was called upon to conduct choral programs for the Austrian broadcasting corporations. In 1950 Professor Grossmann appointed him assistant conductor of the Vienna Academy Chorus. In May, 1954, he was invited to conduct the first concert of the Austrian Society for Contemporary Music, and in July of 1955 he gave a concert in France which was so successful that he was invited to conduct the Mozart "Requiem" in several European capitals during the Mozart Centennial in 1955.

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For Orchestra, Chorus and Soloists
- **KING DAVID ..... Arthur Honegger**  
Symphonic Drama for Narrator, Soloists, Chorus and Orchestra
- **And other works for Chorus, Orchestra and Soloists.**

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During the past decade The Robert Shaw Chorale and Concert Orchestra has enriched the music scene as no other group, with its repeated appearances with all the principal symphonies, with its extraordinary broadcasts with Toscanini and the NBC Symphony, its annual concert tours, and its long list of recordings.

We predict that this first visit of the famed Robert Shaw Chorale and Concert Orchestra will be one of the highlights of our musical season.

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